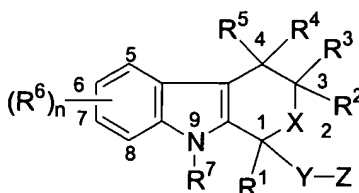


### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic method for treatment of non-malignant diseases characterized by the excessive growth of tissue comprising administering to a patient in need of said therapy, an effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is lower alkyl, (hydroxy)lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, lower cycloalkyl, phenyl, benzyl or 2-thienyl;

R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are the same or different and are each hydrogen or lower alkyl;

each R<sup>6</sup> is independently hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy, (hydroxy)lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, benzyloxy, lower alkanoyloxy, nitro or halo;

R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower alkenyl, X is oxy and thio, Y is carbonyl, -(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl(CO)-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-3</sub>-, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>-;

Z is hydroxy, lower alkoxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)acyloxy, -N(R<sup>8</sup>)(R<sup>9</sup>), phenylamino, (ω-(4-pyridyl)(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy), (ω-((R<sup>8</sup>)(R<sup>9</sup>) amino)(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy), an amino acid ester of (ω-(HO)(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>))alkoxy, -N(R<sup>8</sup>)CH(R<sup>8</sup>)CO<sub>2</sub>H, 1'-D-glucuronyloxy, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -PO<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, -N(NO)(OH), -SO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, -PO(OH)(NH<sub>2</sub>), -OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>, or tetrazolyl;

wherein R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are each H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl or together with N are a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring comprising 1-3 N(R<sup>8</sup>), S or nonperoxide O; n is 0, 1, 2, or 3; and

each alkyl or phenyl group of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and Z is optionally substituted with 1, 2, or 3 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl groups; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

wherein the disease is benign prostate hyperplasia.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein the compound of formula (I) is administered orally.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein the compound of formula (I) is administered in combination with an androgen inhibitor, or an  $\alpha$ -1 adrenergic receptor blocker.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the androgen inhibitor is finasteride.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the  $\alpha$ -1 adrenergic receptor blockers is phenoxybenzamine, prazosin ~~prezasin~~, terazin, doxazosin, or tamsulosin.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein Z is the L-valine or L-glycine ester of 2-hydroxyethoxy.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein Z is N-morpholinoethoxy.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein each R<sup>8</sup> is H, CH<sub>3</sub> or i-Pr.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein Z is OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein the compound of formula (I) is etodolac.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein the compound of formula (I) is the R(-)isomer.